

## adventures in literarų publishing since 2004

# BookThug

www.bookthug.ca | PUBLISHING THE FUTURE OF LITERATURE

# spring | summer 2017 catalogue

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHERS

Dear Faithful Bookseller,

A few years ago, a writer-friend showed me a graph that mapped the number of published books each year against the North American population. In 1913 there were 1,300 readers for every book published. That was somewhat of an amazing statistic. Over the twentieth century both population and publications grew, of course, but in the twenty-first century the numbers were stunning: there are more books published today than there are available readers to read them. My friend pointed to it and said: "That's what we're up against."

At BookThug we continue to respond to the overwhelming number of books readers have to choose from by publishing strong and culturally relevant work that stands out. Our spring and summer releases for 2017 are no different: Within these pages you'll find a gathering of incredible new books that have been selected by our editorial team for your most discerning readers. From Oisín Curran's fantastical novel *Blood Fable*, to Marianne Apostolides' crushingly vulnerable memoir *Deep Salt Water*, to Jennifer LoveGrove's haunting and mesmerizing poetry collection *Beautiful Children With Pet Foxes*, we know that we're offering books that are sure to entice the readers who shop in your store.

But that is just our frontlist. Turning further through this catalogue you'll discover more titles that feature timely, contemporary literature. M. NourbeSe Philip is back with a new book—her first book published in Canada in more than ten years! *Blank: Interviews & Essays* is the third volume in our popular new Essais Series. Following in the footsteps of

Her Paraphernalia: On Motherlines, Blood/Sex/Loss & Selfies by Margaret Christakos and Notes from a Feminist Killjoy: Essays on Everyday Life by Erin Wunker, Philip's new book tackles issues of race, art, and the body politic and will undoubtedly continue the necessary conversations that the Essais Series wants to create.

There are two new works of fiction in the mix, one by a new face and one by a familiar author. Angela Lopes' debut novel *Bridge Retakes* is a millennial long distance love affair that tackles issues of class, gender, religion, and geography. And BookThug is pleased to welcolme back Bertrand Laverdure (and his translator Oana Avasilichioaei) with *Readopolis*, the latest in our Literarure in Translation Series.

We've also gathered another amazing group of poets, new and established—from familiar faces like Stephen Cain and Christine McNair, to new voices like Erin Robinsong and Leanne Dunic. We even have some fabulous established voices new to Book'Thug: Jennifer Still and Divya Victor. Each one of these poets' books captures a slice of the human world we live in from a unique point of view with vitality and verve.

We're confident that every one of the books in this catalogue will continue to contribute to a rich conversation about what it means to be alive now. We know how well you curate your store; as publishers, we too are curators as we create our publishing program. From everyone at BookThug who works tirelessly to get these necessary books into the hands of readers, we thank you for continuing to peruse our catalogues and ordering books for your shelves.

Jay and Hazel Millar

#### BOOKTHUG

Publisher: Jay Millar Managing Editor & Publicist: Hazel Millar Fiction Editor: Malcolm Sutton Essais Series Editor: Julie Joosten Poetry Editors: Phil Hall & Jay Millar Copy Editor: Ruth Zuchter Web Media Manager: John Schmidt

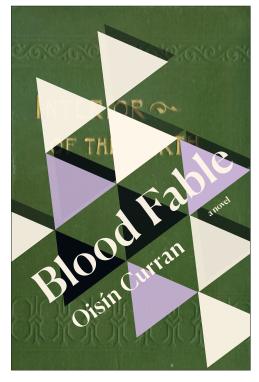
260 Ryding Avenue, Toronto Ontario мбN 1H5 Canada www.bookthug.ca | facebook.com/bookthug | @bookthug 416-994-5804 | orders@bookthug.ca

Catalogue cover by Malcolm Sutton



## **FRONTLIST FICTION**

#### COVER NOT FINAL



17 May 2017 | Fiction 8x5.25 inches | 184 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662949 \$20.00 Author Hometown: Cape Breton, NS

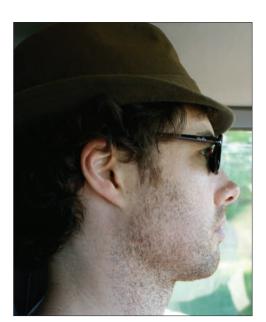


PHOTO: SARAH FABER

## **Blood Fable**

Oisín Curran

*Blood Fable*—the new work of fiction from Oisín Curran—is a Jules Verne–esque fantastical tale filled with Back-to-the-Land ideology and North American Zen Buddhism.

In 1980, a utopian Buddhist community on the coast of Maine called New Pond is on the verge of collapse. New Pond's charismatic leader demands complete adherence to his authority, and slowly, his followers come to the realization that they've been exploited for too long. The eleven-year-old son of one of those adherents is dimly aware of the concerns of the adult world. Yet his imagination provides a refuge both from the difficulties of his parents' lives—including his mother's newly discovered cancer—and from the boredom and casual brutality of school.

To distract his parents and himself from their collective troubles, the boy claims to remember his own life before birth. His purported memory, which is the story within the story of *Blood Fable*, is an epic tale about the search for a lost city refracted through the lens of the adventure stories he loves. As the world around them falls apart, the boy and his parents find that his strange story often seems to predict the events taking place in the world around them.

#### Praise for Mopius:

*"Mopus* is powerful, furious, and strange." —CBC: Canada Writes

"One of the best, genuinely experimental novels I've read in a long time... a daring and ambitious book."

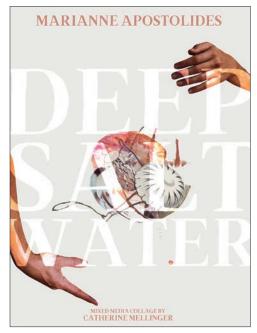
-Eugene Lim, author of The Strangers

Oisín Curran grew up in rural Maine. He received a BA in Classics and an MFA in Creative Writing from Brown University (where he was the recipient of a national scholarship and a writing fellowship), and a diploma in Translation (French to English) from Concordia University. He is the author of *Mopus* (2008) and was named a "Writer to Watch" by CBC: Canada Writes. Curran lives in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, with his wife and two children.



**FRONTLIST NONFICTION** 

#### COVER NOT FINAL



29 March 2017 | Nonfiction / Memoir 8x6 inches | 120 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662789 \$20.00 With 9 colour plates by Catherine Mellinger Author Hometown: Toronto, ON

#### **Deep Salt Water**

Marianne Apostolides

*Deep Salt Water* is an intimate memoir about abortion, expressed through a layering of language and imagery of the ocean. The story gravitates around the reconnection and ongoing entanglements of a couple who'd had an abortion twenty years earlier. Interdisciplinary in nature and entre-genre in style, *Deep Salt Water* is organized as thirty-seven separate pieces, divided into three sections (or 'trimesters') that detail the couple's love affair and unwanted pregnancy; the abortion itself; their separation and tenuous reconnection; and the sorrowful, urgent attempt to come to terms with the abortion and its consequences.

Included in its pages are two innovative elements—a series of collages by visual artist Catherine Mellinger and a section entitled the 'Afterbirth,' which discusses environmental issues that informed Apostolides' writing and moves the book from a place of intense intimacy to an outward focus that engages with the broader world and our shared responsibility and hope.

#### Praise for Marianne Apostolides:

"Apostolides' prose delights and takes pleasure in the slipperiness of language itself."

—Canadian Literature

"Apostolides is a kind of fan dancer among thematic imponderables." *—The Globe and Mail* 



PHOTO: MELANIE GORDON

A recipient of the Chalmers Arts Fellowship, Marianne Apostolides is the author of six books, including three critically-acclaimed titles published by BookThug: *Swim, Voluptuous Pleasure* (listed among the Top 100 Books of 2012 by Toronto's *The Globe and Mail*), and *Sophrosyne*. Marianne lives in Toronto with her two children. Learn more on her website: marianne-apostolides.com.



## FRONTLIST POETRY

#### COVER NOT FINAL



15 March 2017 | Poetry 8.75x5.25 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662864 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Toronto, ON



PHOTO: SHARON HARRIS

## Beautiful Children with Pet Foxes

Jennifer LoveGrove

*Beautiful Children with Pet Foxes*, the new collection of poetry from Giller Prize–longlisted writer Jennifer LoveGrove, attempts to make sense of a difficult and unsettling world, where one need not look much further than their own communities to witness acts of trauma and absurdity.

Here, we're haunted by the ghosts of alienation, trauma, delusion, and fear that the past decade has instilled in us, and bear witness to moments of extreme crisis—in emotional breakdowns, the failures of the mental health system, the lack of support for the most vulnerable members of society, and the impact of psychosis not only on the ill but on those orbiting them.

With inventive and startling imagery and logic, we're led on an odyssey through the terrain of startling dreamscapes, where a whole host of personas, both tame and wild—from humans, to foxes, moose, deer and crows, slugs, fish, beetles, mosquitos, earthworms, and more—give voice to the things we can't express in our daily lives.

#### Praise for Watch How We Walk:

*"Watch How We Walk* is a thoughtful, well-crafted and impressive debut." —*The Globe and Mail* 

"Blisteringly gorgeous prose." —*Publishers Weekly* 

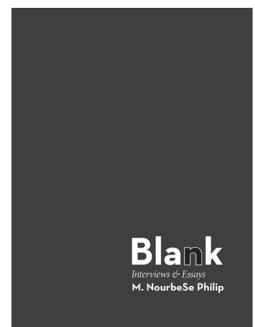
"Sometimes a book is so clear, so well-constructed, that it's impossible to look away, even when looking away might be better for you. Jennifer LoveGrove's *Watch How We Walk* is, for the most part, this kind of hard." —*National Post* 

Jennifer LoveGrove is the author of the Giller Prize–longlisted novel *Watch How We Walk*, as well as two poetry collections: *I Should Never Have Fired the Sentinel* and *The Dagger Between Her Teeth*. In 2010, LoveGrove was nominated for the K.M. Hunter Artist Award for Literature and in 2015, her poetry was shortlisted for the Lit POP Awards. Her writing has appeared in numerous publications across North America. She divides her time between downtown Toronto and rural Ontario.



## NONFICTION

#### COVER NOT FINAL



Essais Series NO. 3 30 June 2017 | Nonfiction 8x5.25 inches | 220 pages Trade Paper: 9781771663069 \$20.00 Author Hometown: Toronto, ON

#### **Blank: Interviews & Essays**

M. NourbeSe Philip

*Blank* is a collection of previously out-of-print essays and new works by one of Canada's most important contemporary writers and thinkers.

Through an engagement with her earlier work, M. NourbeSe Philip comes to realize the existence of a repetition in the world: the return of something that, while still present, has become unembedded from the world, disappeared. Her imperative becomes to make us see what has gone unseen, by writing memory upon the margin of history, in the shadow of empire and at the frontier of silence.

In heretical writings that work to make the disappeared perceptible, *Blank* explores questions of race, the body politic, timeliness, recurrence, ongoingness, art, and the so-called multicultural nation. Through these considerations, Philip creates a linguistic form that registers the presence of what has seemingly dissolved, a form that also imprints the loss and the silence surrounding those disappearances in its very presence.

#### Praise for M. NourbeSe Philip:

"Philip's questions are difficult, and of an intensity of insistence rarely achieved." —Erin Mouré

"Those still confused about why poetry might fracture and splinter and stutter can find an answer in the work of M. NourbeSe Philip." —Juliana Spahr



PHOTO: GAIL NYOKA

M. NourbeSe Philip is a poet, essayist, novelist, playwright, and former lawyer who lives in Toronto. She is a Fellow of the Guggenheim and Rockefeller (Bellagio) Foundations, and the MacDowell Colony. She is the recipient of many awards, including the Casa de las Americas prize (Cuba). Among her best-known works are: *She Tries Her Tongue, Her Silence Softly Breaks, Looking for Livingstone: An Odyssey of Silence*, and *Zong!*, a genre-breaking poem that engages with ideas of the law, history, and memory as they relate to the transatlantic slave trade.



## FICTION

#### COVER NOT FINAL



LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION SERIES 13 April 2017 | Fiction / Translation 8x5.25 inches | 220 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662987 \$20.00 Author Hometown: Montreal, QC Translator Hometown: Montreal, QC

#### Readopolis

Bertrand Laverdure Translated by Oana Avasilichioaei

From award-winning writer Bertrand Laverdure comes *Readopolis*, a novel translated by Oana Avasilichioaei.

It's 2006 and down-and-out protagonist Ghislain works as a reader for a publishing house in Montreal. He's bored with all the wannabe writers who are determined to leave a trace of their passage on earth with their feeble attempts at literary arts. Obsessed by literature and its future (or lack thereof), he reads everything he can in order to translate reality into the literary delirium that is Readopolis—a world imagined out of Chicago and Montreal, with few inhabitants, a convenience store, a parrot, and all kinds of dialogues running amok: cinematic, epistolary, theatrical, and Socratic.

In the pages of *Readopolis* (*Lectodôme* in the original French), Laverdure playfully examines the idea that human beings are more connected by their reading abilities than by anything else. Funny and sardonic, whimsical and tragic, this postmodern novel with touches of David Foster Wallace and Raymond Queneau portrays the global village of readers that the Internet created, even before the 2.0 revolution.

#### Praise for Lectodôme:

"Brilliant, playful, perfectly convincing, *Lectodôme* has everything to place Laverdure in the ranks of the 'sickest literary greats."" —*Le Devoir* 



PHOTO: PAM DICK

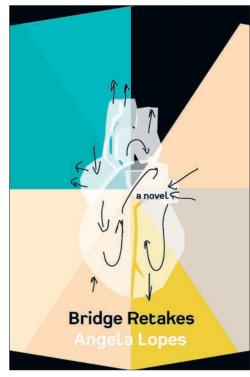
Bertrand Laverdure is a poet, novelist, and the current Poet Laureate for Montreal (2015–17). A prolific writer, Laverdure is the author of three books of poetry and four novels, including *Lectodôme* (2008), *Bureau universel des copyrights* (2011; published in English by BookThug as *Universal Bureau of Copyrights* in 2014), and *La chambre Neptune* (2016). He has won many awards for his work, including the 2003 Grand Prix du Festival International de Poésie de Trois-Rivières, and the 2009 Grand Prix littéraire Archambault for *Lectodôme*.

Montreal-based writer, translator, and editor Oana Avasilichioaei has published five poetry collections, including *Expeditions of a Chimera* (with Erín Moure; 2009), *We, Beasts* (2012; winner of the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry from the Quebec Writers' Federation) and *Limbinal* (2015). Previous translations include Bertrand Laverdure's *Universal Bureau of Copyrights* (2014; shortlisted for the 2015 ReLit Awards), Suzanne Leblanc's *The Thought House of Philippa* (co-translated with Ingrid Pam Dick; 2015), and Daniel Canty's *Wigrum* (2013).



## FICTION

COVER NOT FINAL



15 June 2017 | Fiction 8x8.25 inches | 120 pages Trade Paper: 9781771663021 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Winnipeg, MB

#### Bridge Retakes Angela Lopes

*Bridge Retakes*, the debut novel by Angela Lopes, is a whirlwind millennial tale of love and family and the distances that people will (or won't) go to secure what they want.

A Bahian man and a Brazilian-Canadian woman meet on an online dating site. They come from very different worlds—geographically, economically, religiously and yet, their connection is undeniable. When these long-distance lovers run up against their own belief systems and those of their families and communities, it's their desire to build a life anew that keeps them moving forward. But all the while, issues of money, class, gender, and corruption threaten to tear them apart.

#### Praise for Bridge Retakes:

"This is the story of Phila + Ze, of Canada + Brazil. And like all great love stories it charts the emotions around desire, all its sweats and confusions. And it does this beautifully. What Phila + Ze = is the plot of this book. And as such, what *Bridge Retakes* adds to these stories and what makes it distinctive is how these sweats and confusions are shaped by more complicated forces, such as national borders and economic inequalities."

—Juliana Spahr



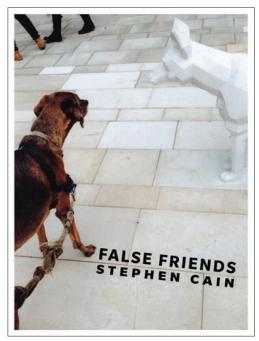
PHOTO: ANGELA LOPES

Winnipeg-based Angela Lopes is a writer, and editor, and academic tutor of writing and philosophy. She divides her time between São Paulo, Brazil and Winnipeg, Manitoba, where she is an active member in the arts scene and recently worked with the Winnipeg Arts Council's Creative Placemaking Challenge—an art installation project displayed in the alleys of the city's West Exchange District. Lopes's essays and poems have appeared in an array of publications. *Bridge Retakes* is her first novel.



## POETRY

#### COVER NOT FINAL



#### **False Friends**

Stephen Cain

*False Friends* is the first full-length poetry collection from Stephen Cain in more than ten years. In it, he takes inspiration from the linguistic term "false friends"—two words from different languages that appear to be related, but have fundamentally different meanings. In this book are poems both humourous and unforgiving that Cain uses to explore errors, misapprehensions, and mistranslations and offer insights into the "secret operations" hiding within everyday language.

These poems spin punk with pastoral, comic book with lyric, the misunderstood with the obvious. And at its core, *False Friends* is a thought-provoking investigation of the power of poetry as political discourse.

#### Praise for I Can Say Interpellation:

"Parody with a healthy dose of moral outrage." —4 Mothers Blog

"Cain has the delightful way of spinning each tale to suit his purpose and the results are often as hilarious as they are uncomfortably recognizable." —Broken Pencil

1 March 2017 | Poetry 8x6 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662901 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Toronto, ON

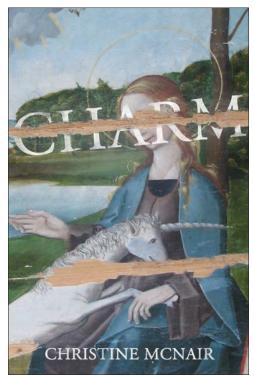


PHOTO: SHARON HARRIS

Stephen Cain is the author of a dozen chapbooks and five full-length collections of poetry, including *dyslexicon* (1998), *American Standard/Canada Dry* (2005), *I Can Say Interpellation* (BookThug, 2011), and *Etc Phrases* (BookThug, 2014). His academic publications include *The Encyclopedia of Fictional and Fantastic Languages* (co-written with Tim Conley; 2006) and a critical edition of bpNichol's early long poems, *bp: beginnings* (BookThug, 2014). Cain lives in Toronto, where he teaches avant-garde and Canadian literature at York University.



#### COVER NOT FINAL



27 April 2017 | Poetry 8x5.25 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771663182 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Ottawa, ON

#### **Charm** Christine McNair

A charm can protect, inflict or influence.

*Charm*, the second collection by poet Christine McNair, considers the craftwork of conception from a variety of viewpoints—from pregnancy and motherhood, to how an orchid is pollinated, to overcoming abusive family relationships, to the manual artistry of carving a violin bow or marbling endpapers.

Through these works, McNair's poetic line evolves as if moving in a spellbound kaleidoscope, etched with omens, fairytales, intimacy's stickiness, and the mothering body.

#### Praise for Conflict:

"A knockout debut. Christine McNair is a one-woman fireworks spectacle." —Grady Harp, *Literary Aficionado* 

"Christine McNair is going to write poetry that will both entertain and illuminate us if *Conflict* is any indication." —Michael Dennis, *Today's Book of Poetry* 



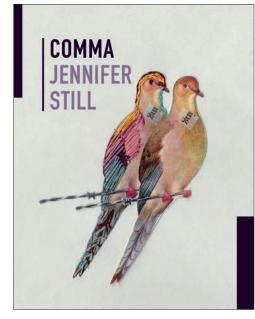
PHOTO: CHARLES EARL

Christine McNair is the author of *Conflict* (BookThug, 2012; finalist for the City of Ottawa Book Award, the Archibald Lampman Award, and the ReLit Award, and shortlisted for the Robert Kroetsch Award for Innovative Poetry) and *pleasantries and other misdemeanours* (2013; shortlisted for the bpNichol chapbook award). Her work has appeared in *Arc Poetry Magazine, CV2, Descant, Poetry is Dead, Prairie Fire*, and other places. McNair lives in Ottawa, where she works as a book doctor.



## POETRY

COVER NOT FINAL



6 June 2016 | Poetry 8x6 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771663106 \$18.00 With 10 colour plates by the author Author Hometown: Winnipeg, ON

#### **Comma** Jennifer Still

It was a long silence that brought me to the erasure poem. Not mine, but my brother's, during his many months in a coma. I came across a notebook of his—a pocketsized, handwritten field guide of prairie grasses. I read it for companionship, signs of consciousness, attention. I read it for the rhythms of his still and distant hand.... I was reading a taxonomy of grief: silique drifted into soliloquy.

Between 2008 and 2014, while her brother was in a lengthy coma, award-winning poet Jennifer Still engaged in a private collaboration with the art and wonder that was his handwritten field guide of prairie grasses. The result: the stunning works of poetry and imagery encapsulated in *Comma*.

Still was moved by an overarching impulse of grief to create these poems. In the brittle lexicon of botany, and in the hum of the machines keeping her brother alive, she developed a hands-on method of composition that plays with the possibilities of what can be 'read' on a page. *Comma* enacts a state of transformation and flux, all in an effort to portray the embodiment of grief and regeneration that can be achieved in the physical breakdown and reassembly of lyric poetic forms.

#### Praise for Comma:

*"Comma* is a living, breathing field guide to the unconscious—Still's poems flicker and leap from the page. This collection is an immersive, tactile wonder, a compassionate, steadfast companion: a truly remarkable exploration by a truly remarkable artist."

-Christine Fellows, singer/songwriter/poet and author of Burning Daylight



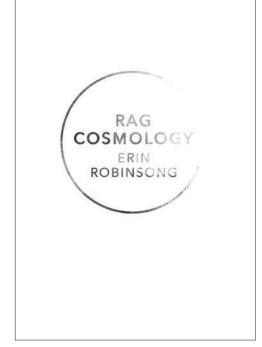
PHOTO: JENNIFER STILL

Jennifer Still's first collection, *Saltations*, was nominated for three Saskatchewan Book Awards. Her second collection, *Girlwood*, was a finalist for the 2012 Aqua Books Lansdowne Prize for Poetry and the first-prize winner of the John V. Hicks Manuscript Award. That same year, she was awarded the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer, and in 2013, she won the *Prairie Fire*/Banff Centre Bliss Carman Poetry Award. Still has served as faculty for the Banff Centre for the Arts and Creativity Wired Writing Studio and is a poetry editor for *CV2*. She was the 2015 University of Winnipeg Carol Shields Writer-in-Residence and will be the 2017 Writer/Storyteller-in-Residence at the University of Manitoba's Centre for Creative Writing and Oral Culture.



## POETRY

COVER NOT FINAL



6 April 2017 | Poetry 8x5.25 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771663144 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Montreal, QC / Toronto, ON



PHOTO: YUULA BENIVOLSKI

Rag Cosmology Erin Robinsong

Book Thug is proud to introduce a groundbreaking debut collection of poems by Erin Robinsong. In this time of ecological precarity, *Rag Cosmology* is an urgent invitation to reinvent our modes of engagement with the environment we not only inhabit, but are. Refusing the lamentation that leaves us as resigned witnesses to devastation, *Rag Cosmology* counters fatalist narratives with the pleasures of ecological entanglement and engagement.

Tracing relationships between seemingly irreconcilable things—economy and ecology, weather and lust, bills and inner voices, wages of avoidance and wages of listening—*Rag Cosmology* offers the intimate and lush language of thought that yearns for an imaginative reinvention of how we understand what we are part of and what we are losing.

Erin Robinsong is a poet and interdisciplinary artist. She is the author of four chapbooks, and her work has appeared in journals across Canada and onstage at the &NOW Festival of New Writing, the Conference on Ecopoetics, and other events. Originally from British Columbia, Robinsong lives between Toronto and Montreal. *Rag Cosmology* is her first book.



## POETRY

#### COVER NOT FINAL



LEANNE DUNIC TO LOVE THE COMING END

2 March 2017 | Poetry 8.5x5.5 inches | 112 pages Trade Paper: 9781771662826 \$18.00 Author Hometown: Vancouver, BC Canadian Rights Only

## **To Love the Coming End**

Leanne Dunic

An unnamed narrator—a disillusioned author obsessed with natural disasters and 'the curse of 11'—reflects on their own personal earthquake: the loss of a loved one. In *To Love the Coming End*, a lyric travelogue/story with a Lost in Translation vibe, Vancouver-based writer and artist Leanne Dunic presents an exploration of loss, identity, and environment, where landscapes and emotion are linked through the narrator's wry observations and experiences.

In inventive prose that travels between Singapore, Canada, and Japan, *To Love the Coming End* offers a dreamlike narrative that reminds readers of our multi-planed and fragile connections and disconnections. Readers with interests in issues of identity, and audiences from cross-cultural backgrounds will be intrigued by the qualities of Dunic's writing that visually capture what it's like to be united while simultaneously separated from the global experience of trauma, history, and loss that colour our everyday lives.

#### Praise for To Love the Coming End:

"Leanne Dunic's meditative collection *To Love the Coming End* embodies Yukio Mishima's characterization of Japan—her writing is at once elegant and brutal. In these fervent poems of disparate landscapes are catastrophic feelings of sadness, loss, and alienation."

—Doretta Lau, author of How Does a Single Blade of Grass Thank the Sun?

"Elegant and spare, Dunic's elegiac writing touches on grief that is both personal and societal. She reminds us that no love is wasted." —Yi-Mei Tsiang, author of *Sweet Devilry* 



PHOTO: RONNIE LEE HILL

Leanne Dunic is a multidisciplinary artist, musician, and writer based in Vancouver, British Columbia. In 2015, Leanne won the Alice Munro Short Story Prize (judged by Lisa Moore) and was shortlisted for the Asian-Canadian Emerging Writer Award. Her work has been published in various magazines and anthologies, including *Cascadia Review, Lemon Hound, Ricepaper Magazine*, and the *Quarterly Literary Review Singapore*. She is the singer/guitarist of the band The Deep Cove and is the Artistic Director of the Powell Street Festival Society in Vancouver. *To Love the Coming End* is her first book.



## POETRY

COVER NOT FINAL



Kith

Divya Victor

kith [noun] one's friends, acquaintances, neighbours, or relations.

In *Kith*, award-winning writer Divya Victor engages Indian-American diasporic culture in the twentieth century, via an autobiographical account that explores what 'kith' might mean outside of the national boundaries of those people belonging to the Indian and Southeast Asian diasporas.

Through an engagement with the effects of globalization on identity formation, cultural and linguistic exchange, and demographic difference, *Kith* explores questions about race and ethnic difference: How do 'brownness' and 'blackness' emerge as traded commodities in the transactions of globalization? What are the symptoms of belonging? How and why does 'kith' diverge from 'kin,' and what are the affects and politics of this divergence? Historically-placed and well-researched, *Kith* is an unflinching and simultaneous account of both systemic and interpersonal forms of violence and wounding in the world today.

#### Praise for Divya Victor:

"Victor's poems present back onto us the processes of our modern world, stripping them bare, rid of all affect. They are meticulous, subversive, and razor-sharp." —Michael Nardone, editor, *Hobo Magazine, Jacket2, Amodern* 

"If Victor's writing sounds harrowing—it is. But it is also terrifically magnetic, glowing with intelligence, elegance, and control." —Sueyeun Juliette Lee, in *The Constant Critic* 



Divya Victor is the two-time Pushcart-nominated author of several books and chapbooks, including *Natural Subjects* (winner of the Bob Kaufman Award), *UNSUB*, and *Things To Do With Your Mouth*. Her chapbooks include *Semblance*, *Hellocasts by Charles Reznikoff by Divya Victor by Vanessa Place*, and *SUTURES*. She was born in southern India and lives in the US and Singapore, where she is Assistant Professor of Poetry and Writing at Nanyang Technological University.

PHOTO: JON GRESHAM

12 May 2017 | Poetry

8x6 inches | 220 pages

Canadian Rights Only

Trade Paper: 9781771663229 \$20.00

Author Hometown: Oakland, CA / Singapore



## SELECT BACKLIST

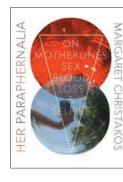
#### Nonfiction

**Fiction** 

Notes from a Feminist Killjoy Erin Wunker Notes from a Feminist Killjoy: Essays on Everyday Life by Erin Wunker

An engaging look at why feminism is still very necessary.

Essais No. 2 204pp, November 2016 ISBN 9781771662567 \$23.00



#### Her Paraphernalia

On Motherlines, Blood/Sex/Loss & Selfies by Margaret Christakos

Profoundly embodies the feelings of living as a woman in all its tumult and precocity and promise.

Essais No. 1 211pp, May 2016 ISBN 9781771662345 \$23.00

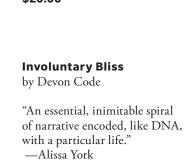


Jacob Wren

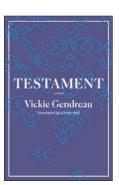
Rich and Poor by Jacob Wren

A thrilling look at the relationship between the 99% and the 1%. **Finalist:** 2016 Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction.

181pp, April 2016 ISBN 9781771662383 \$20.00



169pp, October 2016 ISBN 9781771662499 \$20.00



**Testament** by Vickie Gendreau translated by Aimee Wall

A brutal and honest testament to literature and life, written in the face of death.

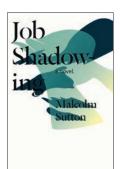
149pp, October 2016 ISBN 9781771662529 \$20.00

# Double Teenage Joni Murphy

**Double Teenage** by Joni Murphy

"A stunning first novel." —Chris Kraus

197pp, April 2016 ISBN 9781771662130 \$20.00



**Job Shadowing** by Malcolm Sutton

An imaginative take on the present-day crisis of work.

205pp, May 2016 ISBN 9781771662024 \$20.00



**RATS NEST** by Mat Laporte

Twelve chilling stories of unreality that will make readers think twice about being human.

156pp, October 2016 ISBN 9781771662444 \$18.00



## SELECT BACKLIST



**The Jokes** by Stephen Thomas

A profound collection of very short stories that riff on the form of "the joke."

152pp, March 2016 ISBN 9781771662062 \$18.00



**One Hundred Days of Rain** by Carellin Brooks

**Winner:** 2016 Edmund White Debut Fiction Award

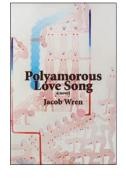
208pp, April 2016 ISBN 9781771660907 \$20.00



**Grand Menteur** by Jean Marc Ah-Sen

A unique "Lock, Stock and Kreol" debut by an exciting new author. A Globe and Mail Best Book of 2015.

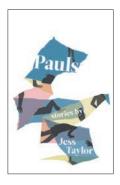
186pp, Oct 2015 ISBN 9781771661300 \$20.00



**Polyamorous Love Song** by Jacob Wren

A novel of intertwined narratives concerning the relationship between artists and the world.

192pp, April 2014 ISBN 9781771660303 \$23.00



**Pauls** by Jess Taylor

"A magical and penetrating collection." —Heather O'Neill

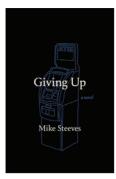
185pp, October 2015 ISBN 9781771661683 \$20.00



by André Alexis

The book that inspired Alexis to write the Quincunx.

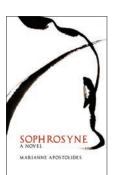
96pp, October 2013 ISBN 9781927040799 \$15.00



**Giving Up** by Mike Steeves

The deeply felt account of what goes on in the inner sanctum of a modern couple's apartment. **Finalist:** 2015 Concordia University First Book Award

203pp, May 2015 ISBN 9781771660914 \$20.00



**Sophrosyne** by Marianne Apostolides

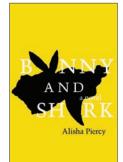
A philosophical tale about a dark relationship between a son and his mother.

176pp, September 2014 ISBN 9781771660501 \$20.00



## SELECT BACKLIST

Poetry



Bunny and Shark by Alisha Piercy

A unique middle-aged coming of age story involving a Playboy Bunny, an island, and a shark.

160pp, January 2014 ISBN 9781771660518 \$20.00



**Universal Bureau of Copyrights** by Bertrand Laverdure Translated by Oana Avasilichioaei

"Laverdure's clever commentary on identity, ownership and control keep us guessing right up until the end." —The Times Literary Supplement

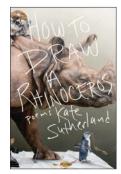
152pp, September 2014 ISBN 9781771660525 \$18.00



**Silvija** by Sandra Ridley

Five feverish elegies; testament to a grief both personal and human.

94pp, September 2016 ISBN 9781771662642 \$18.00



**How to Draw a Rhinoceros** by Kate Sutherland

An entertaining and poetic sketch of the history of European and North American rhinomania.

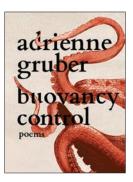
84pp, September 2016 ISBN 9781771662604 \$18.00



**Operations** by Moez Surani

A poetic inventory of the rhetoric of violence depicted through military operations conducted by UN Member Nations since 1945.

112pp, October 2016 ISBN 9781771662680 \$18.00

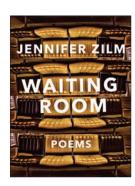


**Buoyancy Control** by Adrienne Gruber

A powerfully feminist and unapologetic poetic voice from one of Canada's most promising young writers.

86pp, April 2015 ISBN 9781771662222 \$18.00





**Lost Originals** by David B. Goldstein

A collection of elegies for a series of "lost originals" whose ghostly traces can only be evoked through language.

116pp, October 2016 ISBN 9781771662727 \$18.00

Waiting Room by Jennifer Zilm

A unique look at what it means to be a patient and to be patient, to be a student and a teacher, to be a healer and to be healed.

104pp, April 2016 ISBN 9781771662147 \$18.00



## SELECT BACKLIST



**Conjugation** by Phil Hall

Myrmurs:

A powerful new collection from the author of *Killdeer: essay poems* 

112pp, March 2016 ISBN 9781771662185 \$20.00

An Exploded Sestina

Connecting medieval textuality to

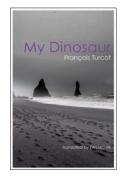
contemporary politics and poetics, this poem explores living systems.

by Shannon Maguire

124pp, Oct 2015

\$18.00

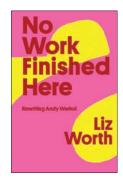
ISBN 9781771661607



**My Dinosaur** by François Turcot Translated by Erín Moure

A moving tribute to a vanished father that excavates his "fossil gaze."

160pp, March 2016 ISBN 9781771662307 \$23.00



**No Work Finished Here: Rewriting Andy Warhol** by Liz Worth

A poetic remix of Andy Warhol's famously scandalous novel *A* 

462pp, September 2015 ISBN 9781771661645 \$20.00



**the pet radish, shrunken** by Pearl Pirie

A fresh, quirky, and clear-seeing collection. **Winner:** 2016 Archibald Lampman Award

96pp, March 2015 ISBN 9781771660921 \$18.00

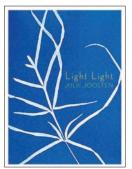


Poems by Gerard Legro

by Jerrold Levy & Richard Negro Edited with an introduction by Alessandro Porco

A valuable contribution to the history of Black Mountain Poetics.

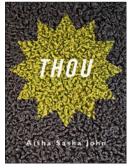
128pp, January 2016 ISBN 9781771662000 \$22.00



**Light Light** by Julie Joosten

A provocative engagement with the technologies and languages that shape discourses of knowing. **Finalist:** 2014 Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry

120pp, October 2013 ISBN 9781927040836 \$18.00



**THOU** by Aisha Sasha John

A powerful collection that explores the social space that exists between the self and others. **Finalist:** 2015 Trillium Book Award for Poetry

176pp, April 2014 ISBN 9781927040334 \$20.00

## **ORDERING INFORMATION**

Individuals: BookThug titles are available at your favourite bookstore, or you can order them directly through our website: **WWW.BOOKTHUG.CA** 

#### BookThug

260 Ryding Avenue, Toronto, on M6N 1H5 Tel: 416.994.5804 Jay MillAr, Publisher jay@bookthug.ca Hazel Millar, Publicist hazel@bookthug.ca Malcolm Sutton, Fiction Editor malcolm@bookthug.ca Phil Hall, Poetry Editor phil@bookthug.ca Julie Joosten, Essais Series Editor julie@bookthug.ca

#### CANADIAN SALES REPRESENTATION

#### **General Inquiries**

Canadian Manda Group 664 Annette Street Toronto, ON M6S 2C8 Tel: 416.516.0911 Fax: 416.516.0917 Email: info@mandagroup.com

#### **Customer Service & Orders**

Tel: 1.855.626.3222 (1.855.MANDA CA) Fax: 1.888.563.8327 Email: info@mandagroup.com

#### National Accounts

Anthony Iantorno, Manager, Business Intelligence & National Accounts TEL: 416.516.0911 X242

Peter Hill-Field, Director, Sales & Marketing TEL: 416.516.0911 X238

Chris Hickey, National Account Manager TEL: 416.516.0911 X229

Joanne Adams, National Account Manager TEL: 416.516.0911 X224

Jessey Glibbery, Account Manager, Special Markets TEL: 416.516.0911 X228

Tim Gain, National Account Manager, Library Market TEL: 416.516.0911 X231

#### **Special Markets**

Ellen Warwick, National Account Manager, Special Markets TEL: 416.516.0911 x240

Kristina Koski, Account Manager, Special Markets TEL: 416.516.0911 X234

#### **Regional Accounts**

Iolanda Millar, Account Manager, British Columbia, Yukon & Northern Territories TEL: 604.662.3511 X246

Tracey Bhangu, Account Manager, British Columbia TEL: 604.662.3511 X247

Jean Cichon, Account Manager, Alberta, Saskatchewan & Manitoba TEL: 403.202.0922 X245

Emily Patry, National Account & Communications Manager TEL: 416.516.0911 X230

Dave Nadalin, Account Manager, Ontario TEL: 416.516.0911 X400

Jacques Filippi, Account Manager, Quebec & Atlantic Provinces TEL: 1.855.626.3222 X244

#### US SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Tan Light, Sales Manager, Literary Press Group 700-425 Adelaide Street West Toronto, ON M5V 3C1 Tel: 416.483.1321 X4 Fax: 416.483.2510 Email: sales@lpg.ca

#### Canadian Trade Distribution

LitDistCo c/o 100 Armstrong Avenue Georgetown, ON 17G 584 Toll-free-phone (Canada, US): 1.800.591.6250 Toll-free-fax (Canada, US): 1.800.591.6251 Email: orders@litdistco.ca

#### Canadian Returns to:

Fraser Direct, Returns Processing Centre 124 Guelph Street Acton, on 17J 2M2

#### **US Trade Distribution**

Small Press Distribution Tel: 510.524.1668 / 1.800.869.7553 Fax: 510.524.0852 Email: spd@spdbooks.org www.spdbooks.org

**Desk and Review Copies**: Please contact BookThug directly at orders@ bookthug.ca or 416.994.5804. Desk copies will be provided upon written request and invoiced after 180 days without course adoption.

BookThug gratefully acknowledges support from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council for its publishing program. BookThug also acknowledges the support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund and the Government of Ontario through the Ontario Book Publishing Tax Credit Program and the Ontario Book Fund.



Canada Council Conseil des Arts for the Arts du Canada



ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO an Ontario government agency un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

unded by the Financé par le Government gouvernement of Canada du Canada



